



**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY  
IN ORIGINAL APPLICATION**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that I verily believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**ACCESS NODE FOR OPTICAL NETWORKS WITH VARIABLE-ACCESS  
WAVELENGTHS, USER DEVICE FOR CONNECTION TO SUCH AN ACCESS  
NODE, METHOD FOR FEEDING A NUMBER OF SIGNALS FROM A NUMBER OF  
USERS INTO AN OPTICAL NETWORK AND USING AN ACCESS NODE AND AT  
LEAST ONE USER DEVICE FOR CARRYING OUT SUCH A METHOD.**

described and claimed in the specification bearing that title, that I understand the content of the specification, that I do not know and do not believe the same was ever known or used in the United States of America before my or our invention thereof, or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my or our invention thereof or more than one year prior to this application, that the same was not in public use or on sale in the United States of America more than one year prior to this application, that the invention has not been patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate issued before the date of this application in any country foreign to the United States of America on an application filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns more than twelve month prior to this application, that I acknowledge my duty to disclose information of which I am aware which is material to the examination of this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.56a, and that no application for patent or inventor's certificate of this invention has been filed earlier than the following in any country foreign to the United States prior to this application by me or my legal representatives or assigns:

German Application No. 100 04 290.2, filed February 1, 2000, the International Priority of which is claimed under 35 U.S.C. §119.

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

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Figure 1 consists of three panels. The top panel is a bar chart showing the 'Number of subjects' for different 'Age' groups: 18-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-54, 55-64, 65-74, 75-84, and 85-94. The middle panel is a line graph showing the 'Number of subjects' for different 'Age' groups, categorized by 'Gender' (Male and Female). The bottom panel is a line graph showing the 'Number of subjects' for different 'Age' groups, categorized by 'Education' (High school, College, and Graduate).

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Abstract of the Disclosure:

The access node for optical networks with variable access wavelengths can be connected to user devices via respective first optical conductors and can be connected to the optical network via second optical conductors. The novel access node has light sources which emit at the wavelengths defined in the optical network. The light of the light sources can be modulated in the user devices. This prevents that in each case a light source which must be able to emit light of a different wavelength in a dynamic optical network or the wavelengths of which must be subsequently converted must be arranged in the individual user devices. In addition, it also prevents circuit boards leading to a high logistical expenditure having to be provided in the user devices. Accordingly, according to the invention, it is possible to construct the individual user devices without light sources. This considerably simplifies their construction and the method of use.

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